

**Speech and Language Therapist, Manager  
Job Specification & Terms and Conditions**

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| **Job Title and Grade** | **Speech and Language Therapist, Manager**  *(Grade Code: 3468)* |
| **Campaign Reference** | To be completed by Recruiter. |
| **Closing Date** | To be completed by Recruiter. |
| **Proposed Interview Date (s)** | To be completed by Recruiter. |
| **Taking up Appointment** | A start date will be indicated at job offer stage. |
| **Location of Post** | Insert location  There is currently xx permanent / specified purpose / part time / whole-time vacancy available in xxxxxxxxxx  A panel may be formed as a result of this campaign for xxxxxxxxxxx from which current and future, permanent and specified purpose vacancies of full or part-time duration may be filled. |
| **Informal Enquiries** | Please provide name & contact details for person who will deal with informal enquiries. |
| **Details of Service** | Provide details to the following types of questions:   * What service does the unit provide? * What client group is served by the unit? * What are the possible future developments for the service? * What is the team structure? * What area is covered by this service?   There is no limit to the text that can be inserted here. Please use this section to highlight the service and generate interest in the service and job being recruited for |
| **Reporting Relationship** | Please outline reporting relationships associated with the post:   * To whom will the job holder report? * Who will report to the job holder? |
| **Purpose of the Post** | *Example:* The post holder will provide the professional and clinical leadership, management and support to facilitate the Speech and Language Therapy team to provide a quality Speech and Language Therapy service to meet the needs of the local population.  The post holder will develop Speech and Language therapy services in line with priorities identified in the HSE service plan and the operational plan in conjunction with other disciplines and services to deliver a coordinated approach to service user care.  The post holder will manage staff resources and ensure professional standards of care are adhered to and that appropriate skill mix is available to provide a service user-centred quality service with equitable and timely access to Speech and Language therapy for the local population.  The post holder will liaise with colleagues in other sectors including the acute and voluntary sectors, where appropriate, to develop a co-ordinated strategic approach to service provision for the area. |
| **Principal Duties and Responsibilities** | *The Speech and Language Therapist, Manager will:*  **Professional / Clinical**   * Be responsible for the overall management and performance of Speech and Language therapy activity within the designated area in keeping with good professional practice and subject to agreed national policy directives and priorities including the clinical programmes. * Provide clinical and professional leadership in the delivery of a high quality Speech and Language therapy service. * Ensure best practice Speech and Language therapy needs assessments and appropriate range of service user interventions are in place. * Ensure that professional standards are maintained through clinical audit, supervision and training. * Operate within the scope of Speech and Language Therapy practice as per CORU requirements and in accordance with local guidelines. * Ensure quality of staff provision through clinical audit, supervision and training. * Work as a member of the multidisciplinary team as required for service delivery. * Be responsible for the delivery of the Speech and Language therapy service within the budget allocation. * Be accountable and responsible for Speech and Language therapy service costs and to manage these budgets in line with financial regulations, to ensure value for money for the organisation. * Develop good working relationships with other Heads of Service, professionals, specialist services, community and voluntary organisations to provide integrated quality care to service users. * Develop and promote integrated models of service delivery between relevant stakeholders. * Provide line management, professional and clinical supervision to Speech and Language therapist staff members.   **Education & Training**   * Maintain standards of practice and levels of professional knowledge by participating in continuous professional development initiatives and attendance at courses as appropriate. * Engage in career and professional development planning. * Encourage and support the promotion of continued professional development and training by making recommendations with regard to the on-going education, research, training and in-service needs of Speech and Language Therapists to meet HSE standards. * Be responsible, in partnership with local General Management, for the practice education of student therapists through provision of placements and through support for therapists who are practice educators within their departments. * Build and communicate an understanding of the role and contribution of Speech and Language Therapy within multidisciplinary teams to ensure a clear pathway for service users.   **Quality and Risk, Health and Safety Management**   * Take responsibility for all aspects of staff and client safety within their area of responsibility. * Contribute to the development of policies, procedures, guidelines and safe professional practice and adhere to relevant legislation, regulations and standards and ensure that staff comply with same. * Carry out risk assessments within the Speech and Language Therapy service and ensure necessary follow up steps are taken. * Have a working knowledge of the Health Information and Quality Authority (HIQA) Standards as they apply to the role for example, Standards for Healthcare, National Standards for the Prevention and Control of Healthcare Associated Infections, Hygiene Standards etc. and comply with associated HSE protocols for implementing and maintaining these standards as appropriate to the role. * Support, promote and actively participate in sustainable energy, water and waste initiatives to create a more sustainable, low carbon and efficient health service.   **Management**   * Contribute to service planning and development in conjunction with senior management / relevant others and in accordance with national strategies. * Advise senior management on the planning and provision of Speech and Language Therapy services in line with the National Service Plan and local operational plan. * Develop and implement strategic service and business plans, quality initiatives, audits etc. based on up to date evidence based practice and report on outcomes. * Ensure service delivery corresponds to best national and international practice. * Foster and lead a culture and practice of evaluating service outcomes and implementing quality improvement initiatives. * Monitor service and performance levels - report on activity levels and provide service delivery reports as required. * Be responsible for the delivery of the Speech and Language Therapy service within the budget allocation. * Optimise the use of available resources to achieve effective outcomes in planning and delivering a flexible service that meets the needs of service users. * Ensure Speech and Language Therapy service complies with relevant HR and other policies, procedures and guidelines. * Oversee the implementation of appropriate induction and probationary systems. * Oversee and implement an appropriate performance management system (e.g. clinical audit/quality assurance programmes) for the delivery of a high quality Speech and Language Therapy service. * Ensure compliance with a high standard of documentation, including service user files in accordance with local guidelines and relevant legislation e.g. FOI, GDPR. * Liaise formally & informally with other health services, hospital departments and outside agencies, both statutory and voluntary. * Keep updated on current and impending legislation and the perceived impact on practice. * Keep up to date with national and organisational developments within the Irish Health Service. * Represent Speech and Language Therapy on the Management Team. * Act as spokesperson for the organisation as required. * Demonstrate pro-active commitment to all communications with internal and external stakeholders.   **The above Job Specification is not intended to be a comprehensive list of all duties involved and consequently, the post holder may be required to perform other duties as appropriate to the post which may be assigned to him/her from time to time and to contribute to the development of the post while in office.** |
| **Eligibility Criteria**  **Qualifications and/ or experience** | **Candidates must have at the latest date of application:**  **Please insert Eligibility Criteria for the post - see HSE website at:** [**http://hse.ie/eng/staff/Jobs/Eligibility\_Criteria/**](http://hse.ie/eng/staff/Jobs/Eligibility_Criteria/)  **Health**  A candidate for and any person holding the office must be fully competent and capable of undertaking the duties attached to the office and be in a state of health such as would indicate a reasonable prospect of ability to render regular and efficient service.  **Character**  Each candidate for and any person holding the office must be of good character. |
| **Post specific Requirements** | **This section may be used to specify that candidates must demonstrate particular experience deemed necessary for safe and effective performance in the role**  **e.g.**   * **depth and breadth of experience in providing a service to marginalised communities** * **depth and breadth of experience of working in a High Dependency Unit in an Acute setting** * **depth and breadth of experience of delivering concurrent, multiple projects.**   **Post Specific Requirements are not additional qualifications. It is not possible to include other qualifications in this section, without engaging in having those qualifications recognised as an essential part of the role. Essential requirements form part of the Eligibility Criteria. Eligibility Criteria must be agreed with National HR and are applied to all roles at this grade, not a job in a particular site or service.** |
| **Other requirements specific to the post** | **Please outline if there are specific practical requirements that are specific to the post**  **e.g.**   * **have access to appropriate transport to fulfil the requirements of the role** * **participate in an on-call rota** |
| **Skills, competencies and/or knowledge** | **Professional Knowledge & Experience**  *For example:*   * Demonstrates a level of clinical knowledge, clinical reasoning skills and evidence based practice appropriate to carrying out the duties and responsibilities of the role in line with relevant legislation and standards. * Demonstrates an appropriate level of understanding of the Speech and Language Therapy process, the underpinning theory and its application to the role. * Demonstrates evidence of having applied / used appropriate assessment tools and treatments and a knowledge of the implications of outcomes to service users. * Demonstrates the knowledge, abilities and technical skills required to provide safe, efficient and effective service in the area of responsibility. Has a sound knowledge of clinical risk management. * Demonstrates knowledge of legislative requirements relating to the healthcare services and the workplace. * Demonstrates a commitment to continuous professional development and knowledge sharing. * Demonstrates a willingness to engage with and develop IT skills relevant to the role.   **Planning and Managing Resources**  *For example:*   * Demonstrates the ability to lead on planning, organising and delivering services in an efficient, effective and resourceful manner, within a model of patient centred care and with a focus on value for money. * Co-ordinates work with other professions to ensure an optimum service is provided for service-users. * Demonstrates a high level of initiative and adaptability in response to workforce demands.   **Managing and Developing (Self and Others)**  *For example:*   * Is sufficiently aware of policy, legislative and professional requirements to ensure appropriate standards in their area of responsibility. * Provides clear direction on a regular basis and adopts an approachable management style, promotes collaborative working relationships. * Deals positively and constructively with obstacles and conflict within teams. * Demonstrates a commitment to the development of self and others. * Fosters a learning culture amongst staff and colleagues to drive continuous improvement in services to patients.   **Commitment to providing a Quality Service**  *For example:*   * Demonstrates the ability to lead on the delivery, design and implementation of a high quality, person centred service. * Embraces and promotes change - demonstrates an ability to plan strategically to drive change / make improvements to service delivery. * Continuously challenges the standards of quality and efficiency and strives to find ways to improve standards of care. * Displays strong awareness and appreciation of the service users and the ability to empathise with and treat others with dignity and respect.   **Evaluating Information and Judging Situations**  *For example:*   * Demonstrates the ability to collate, analyse, interpret, and report on service activity and assigned/agreed KPI’s. * Demonstrates the ability to effectively analyse and critically evaluate complex information and make appropriate decisions. * Adequately identifies, assesses, manages and monitors risk within their area of responsibility. * Demonstrate effective problem-solving strategies, including the ability to be flexible and innovative, and manage challenging scenarios. * Explains the rationale behind decisions confidently when faced with opposing or competing demands. Is objective but also aware of sensitivities in their approach.   **Communications and Interpersonal Skills**  *For example:*   * Display effective communication skills (verbal & written), including the ability to present complex information. * Tailors the communication method and the message to match the needs of the audience; demonstrates active listening skills. * Demonstrates effective interpersonal skills including the ability to collaborate in partnership with others. * Demonstrates sensitivity, diplomacy and tact when dealing with others; is patient and tolerant when dealing with conflict situations. * Demonstrates strong influencing and negotiation skills; remains firm but flexible when putting forward a point of view. |
| **Campaign Specific Selection Process**  **Ranking/Shortlisting / Interview** | A ranking and or shortlisting exercise may be carried out on the basis of information supplied in your application form. The criteria for ranking and or shortlisting are based on the requirements of the post as outlined in the eligibility criteria and skills, competencies and/or knowledge section of this job specification. Therefore it is very important that you think about your experience in light of those requirements.  Failure to include information regarding these requirements may result in you not being called forward to the next stage of the selection process.  Those successful at the ranking stage of this process (where applied) will be placed on an order of merit and will be called to interview in ‘bands’ depending on the service needs of the organisation.  The HSE is an equal opportunities employer. |
| **Code of Practice** | The Health Service Executive will run this campaign in compliance with the Code of Practice prepared by the Commission for Public Service Appointments (CPSA). The Code of Practice sets out how the core principles of probity, merit, equity and fairness might be applied on a principle basis. The Code also specifies the responsibilities placed on candidates, facilities for feedback to applicants on matters relating to their application when requested, and outlines procedures in relation to requests for a review of the recruitment and selection process and review in relation to allegations of a breach of the Code of Practice. Additional information on the HSE’s review process is available in the document posted with each vacancy entitled “Code of Practice, Information for Candidates”.  Codes of practice are published by the CPSA and are available on <https://www.hse.ie/eng/staff/jobs> in the document posted with each vacancy entitled “Code of Practice, Information for Candidates” or on <https://www.cpsa.ie/>. |
| The reform programme outlined for the Health Services may impact on this role and as structures change the Job Specification may be reviewed.  This Job Specification is a guide to the general range of duties assigned to the post holder. It is intended to be neither definitive nor restrictive and is subject to periodic review with the employee concerned. | |



**Speech and Language Therapist, Manager**

**Terms and Conditions of Employment**

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| **Tenure** | The current vacancy available is **permanent/temporary** and **whole time/part-time.**  The post is pensionable. A panel may be created from which permanent and specified purpose vacancies of full or part time duration may be filled. The tenure of these posts will be indicated at “expression of interest” stage.  Appointment as an employee of the Health Service Executive is governed by the Health Act 2004 and the Public Service Management (Recruitment and Appointments) Act 2004 and Public Service Management (Recruitment and Appointments) Amendment Act 2013. |
| **Remuneration** | The Salary scale for the post is: **PLEASE INSERT (Pro Rata - part-time)**  **PLEASE INSERT the most recent salary scales for the role and grade code.**  New appointees to any grade start at the minimum point of the scale. Incremental credit will be applied for recognised relevant service in Ireland and abroad (Department of Health Circular 2/2011). Incremental credit is normally granted on appointment, in respect of previous experience in the Civil Service, Local Authorities, Health Service and other Public Service Bodies and Statutory Agencies. |
| **Working Week** | The standard working week applying to the post is to be confirmed at Job Offer stage.  **Please include the following paragraph for posts that traditionally worked 9-5, Monday to Friday. Do not include for nursing and other posts that are required to work shifts over a 7-day week.**  HSE Circular 003-2009 “Matching Working Patterns to Service Needs (Extended Working Day / Week Arrangements); Framework for Implementation of Clause 30.4 of Towards 2016” applies. Under the terms of this circular, all new entrants and staff appointed to promotional posts from Dec 16th, 2008 will be required to work agreed roster / on call arrangements as advised by their line manager. Contracted hours of work are liable to change between the hours of 8am-8pm over seven days to meet the requirements for extended day services in accordance with the terms of the Framework Agreement (Implementation of Clause 30.4 of Towards 2016). |
| **Annual Leave** | The annual leave associated with the post will be confirmed at contracting stage. |
| **Superannuation** | This is a pensionable position with the HSE. The successful candidate will upon appointment become a member of the appropriate pension scheme. Pension scheme membership will be notified within the contract of employment. Members of pre-existing pension schemes who transferred to the HSE on the 01st January 2005 pursuant to Section 60 of the Health Act 2004 are entitled to superannuation benefit terms under the HSE Scheme which are no less favourable to those which they were entitled to at 31st December 2004 |
| **Age** | The Public Service Superannuation (Age of Retirement) Act, 2018\* set 70 years as the compulsory retirement age for public servants.  ***\* Public Servants not affected by this legislation:***  Public servants joining the public service, or re-joining the public service with a 26 week break in service, between 1 April 2004 and 31 December 2012 (new entrants) have no compulsory retirement age.  Public servants, joining the public service or re-joining the public service after a 26 week break, after 1 January 2013 are members of the Single Pension Scheme and have a compulsory retirement age of 70. |
| **Probation** | Every appointment of a person who is not already a permanent officer of the Health Service Executive or of a Local Authority shall be subject to a probationary period of 12 months as stipulated in the Department of Health Circular No.10/71. |
| **Protection of Persons Reporting Child Abuse Act 1998** | As this post is one of those designated under the Protection of Persons Reporting Child Abuse Act 1998, appointment to this post appoints one as a designated officer in accordance with Section 2 of the Act.  You will remain a designated officer for the duration of your appointment to your current post or for the duration of your appointment to such other post as is included in the categories specified in the Ministerial Direction. You will receive full information on your responsibilities under the Act on appointment. |
| **Mandated Person Children First Act 2015** | As a mandated person under the Children First Act 2015 you will have a legal obligation:   * To report child protection concerns at or above a defined threshold to TUSLA. * To assist Tusla, if requested, in assessing a concern which has been the subject of a mandated report.   You will remain a mandated person for the duration of your appointment to your current post or for the duration of your appointment to such other post as is included in the categories specified in the Ministerial Direction. You will receive full information on your responsibilities under the Act on appointment. |
| **Infection Control** | Have a working knowledge of Health Information and Quality Authority (HIQA) Standards as they apply to the role for example, Standards for Healthcare, National Standards for the Prevention and Control of Healthcare Associated Infections, Hygiene Standards etc. and comply with associated HSE protocols for implementing and maintaining these standards as appropriate to the role. |
| **Health & Safety** | It is the responsibility of line managers to ensure that the management of safety, health and welfare is successfully integrated into all activities undertaken within their area of responsibility, so far as is reasonably practicable. Line managers are named and roles and responsibilities detailed in the relevant Site Specific Safety Statement (SSSS).  Key responsibilities include:   * Developing a SSSS for the department/service[[1]](#footnote-1), as applicable, based on the identification of hazards and the assessment of risks, and reviewing/updating same on a regular basis (at least annually) and in the event of any significant change in the work activity or place of work. * Ensuring that Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) is integrated into day-to-day business, providing Systems Of Work (SOW) that are planned, organised, performed, maintained and revised as appropriate, and ensuring that all safety related records are maintained and available for inspection. * Consulting and communicating with staff and safety representatives on OSH matters. * Ensuring a training needs assessment (TNA) is undertaken for employees, facilitating their attendance at statutory OSH training, and ensuring records are maintained for each employee. * Ensuring that all incidents occurring within the relevant department/service are appropriately managed and investigated in accordance with HSE procedures[[2]](#footnote-2). * Seeking advice from health and safety professionals through the National Health and Safety Function Helpdesk as appropriate. * Reviewing the health and safety performance of the ward/department/service and staff through, respectively, local audit and performance achievement meetings for example.   **Note**: Detailed roles and responsibilities of Line Managers are outlined in local SSSS. |
| **Ethics in Public Office 1995 and 2001** | Positions remunerated at or above the minimum point of the Grade VIII salary scale are designated positions under Section 18 of the Ethics in Public Office Act 1995. Any person appointed to a designated position must comply with the requirements of the Ethics in Public Office Acts 1995 and 2001 as outlined below:  A) In accordance with Section 18 of the Ethics in Public Office Act 1995, a person holding such a post is required to prepare and furnish an annual statement of any interests which could materially influence the performance of the official functions of the post. This annual statement of interest should be submitted to the Chief Executive Officer not later than 31st January in the following year.  B) In addition to the annual statement, a person holding such a post is required, whenever they are performing a function as an employee of the HSE and have actual knowledge, or a connected person, has a material interest in a matter to which the function relates, provide at the time a statement of the facts of that interest. A person holding such a post should provide such statement to the Chief Executive Officer. The function in question cannot be performed unless there are compelling reasons to do so and, if this is the case, those compelling reasons must be stated in writing and must be provided to the Chief Executive Officer.  C) A person holding such a post is required under the Ethics in Public Office Acts 1995 and 2001 to act in accordance with any guidelines or advice published or given by the Standards in Public Office Commission. Guidelines for public servants on compliance with the provisions of the Ethics in Public Office Acts 1995 and 2001 are available on the Standards Commission’s website <https://www.sipo.ie/>. |

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*Helpful Reminders\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**1) Please remember to delete any prompts and / or tables (in dark blue) in the sections above**

**2) Ensure all fonts are now in black**

1. A template SSSS and guidelines are available on the National Health and Safety Function, here: <https://www.hse.ie/eng/staff/safetywellbeing/about%20us/>

   2 See link on health and safety web-pages to latest Incident Management Policy [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)